

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. A-68851-1/RMS/VEJ  
Attorney Matter No. 469249-00162  
Application No. 09/493,741

*In the Claims:*

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently amended) An apparatus for solid-phase synthesis comprising:

a) a centrifuge comprising a rotor rotatable about an axis of rotation which ~~[[holds in a fixed position]]~~ includes at least one reaction vessel ~~[[titled away from]]~~ at an angle with respect to said axis of rotation so that an open end of said at least one reaction vessel is not tilted toward said axis of rotation, said at least one reaction vessel including a solid-phase support secured thereto and adapted for solid-phase synthesis; and

b) a waste reservoir connected to the bottom of said centrifuge to hold liquids expelled from said reaction vessels.

28. (Currently amended) An apparatus for solid-phase synthesis comprising:

a) a centrifuge comprising a rotor rotatable about an axis of rotation which ~~[[holds in a fixed position]]~~ includes at least one reaction vessel ~~[[titled away from]]~~ at an angle with respect to said axis of rotation so that an open end of said at least one reaction vessel is not tilted toward said axis of rotation, said at least one reaction vessel including a solid-phase support secured thereto and adapted for solid-phase synthesis; and

b) a waste reservoir connected with a tube to said centrifuge to hold liquids expelled from said reaction vessels.

29. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 27 or 28 wherein said rotor comprises a plurality of holders, each holder designed to hold at least one microtiter plate at said angle.

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30. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 27 or 28 further comprising a liquid distribution system.
31. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 30 wherein said liquid distribution system is integrated into the centrifuge.
32. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 27 or 28 further comprising a computer.
33. (New) An apparatus according to claim 27 or 28 wherein said angle is a fixed angle with respect to said axis of rotation.
34. (New) An apparatus according to claim 33 wherein said fixed angle is tilted outwardly so that an open end of said at least one reaction vessel is pointed away from said axis of rotation.
35. (New) An apparatus according to claim 27 or 28 wherein said solid-phase support is firmly attached to an interior surface of said at least one reaction vessel.
36. (New) An apparatus according to claim 27 or 28 wherein said solid-phase support is a modified interior surface of said at least one reaction vessel.
37. (New) An apparatus according to claim 36 wherein said at least one reaction vessel is a microtiter plate functionalized as a solid-phase support for said solid-phase synthesis.
38. (New) An apparatus according to claim 27 or 28 wherein said at least one reaction vessel is not tilted toward said axis of rotation during rotation.

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39. (New) An apparatus comprising:

- a) a centrifuge comprising a rotor rotatable about an axis of rotation which includes at least one reaction vessel at a fixed angle tilted with respect to said axis of rotation so that an open end of said at least one reaction vessel is pointed away from said axis of rotation; and
- b) a waste reservoir connected to said centrifuge to hold liquids expelled from said reaction vessels.

40. (New) An apparatus according to claim 39 wherein said waste reservoir is connected to the bottom of said centrifuge.

41. (New) An apparatus according to claim 39 wherein said waste reservoir is connected with a tube to said centrifuge.

42. (New) An apparatus according to claim 39 wherein said rotor comprises a plurality of holders, each holder designed to hold at least one microtiter plate at said fixed angle.

43. (New) An apparatus according to claim 39 further comprising a liquid distribution system.

44. (New) An apparatus according to claim 43 wherein said liquid distribution system is integrated into the centrifuge.

45. (New) An apparatus according to claim 39 further comprising a computer.

46. (New) An apparatus according to claim 39 wherein said at least one reaction vessel further comprises a solid-phase support adapted for solid-phase synthesis.

47. (New) An apparatus according to claim 46 wherein said solid-phase support is firmly attached to an interior surface of said at least one reaction vessel.

AMENDMENT AND REPLY

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48. (New) An apparatus according to claim 46 wherein said solid-phase support is a modified interior surface of said at least one reaction vessel.

49. (New) An apparatus according to claim 48 wherein said at least one reaction vessel is a microtiter plate functionalized as a solid-phase support for said solid-phase synthesis.